

81 00968

new

Newsletter for the Neighborhoods



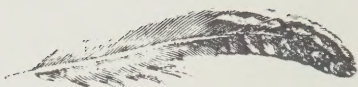
INSTITUTE OF GOVERNMENTAL
STUDIES LIBRARY

APR 29 1980

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

from
GEORGE R. MOSCONE, Mayor • City and County of San Francisco
APRIL 1976

Dear Fellow San Franciscan:



Together we have before us the demanding and exciting task of improving the quality of life in San Francisco's neighborhoods.

We are not going to see abundant new revenues flowing into San Francisco to help us with this task, so we are going to have to rely upon our combined energies and talents to make the best use of the resources currently available to us.

One of the first steps in this process is for me to make sure that you are aware of one important source of funding for neighborhood improvement projects, which is the Community Development Block Grant Program, funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The purpose of this newsletter is to explain San Francisco's Community Development Program to you and to describe some of the individual projects currently being funded under this Program, so that you may determine which ones are appropriate for your neighborhood and may learn how you can participate in them.

Your involvement in these programs is our best guarantee that our resources will be working to their maximum potential. It is clear to me that people living in the neighborhoods know best how to plan for themselves. In my experience, projects developed by neighborhood groups are better used because they are designed to meet a definite need, better maintained because they are a source of neighborhood pride, and less costly because they have the benefit of neighborhood imagination and energy in their development.

I urge you to review this newsletter, inquire further about projects that interest you, and work with your neighbors to identify neighborhood priorities and develop neighborhood projects. The more you are involved in the Community Development Program, the more it will be working to improve the quality of life in your neighborhood.

Sincerely,

George R. Moscone
Mayor



The Community Development Block Grant Program

You may have heard about San Francisco's Community Development Block Grant Program. You probably know that it is providing money for certain projects in certain neighborhoods, but you might not know how these decisions are made or how you can participate in them.

The first opportunity for participation is in the development of the overall annual Community Development Program. Each year, the City prepares a program for the use of block grant funds provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The development of the annual program must begin well in advance of the new calendar year in order to provide adequate opportunity for the involvement of citizens and adequate time for review and approval of the program application by HUD. Therefore, planning for the 1977 Community Development Program will begin in the spring of 1976. The Mayor's Office of Community Development (OCD) has the lead responsibility for preparing these annual programs.

Public hearings will be held in May 1976 to hear testimony from citizens and organizations regarding the City's community development and housing needs. You are encouraged to participate in these hearings or submit written requests and information to James Jaquet, Director of the Mayor's Office of Community Development, Room 205, City Hall.

1977 Community Development Program Preparation

May 1976	Mayor's Hearings on Needs
June 1976	Preparation of a Preliminary Proposal
July 1976	Mayor's Hearings on the Preliminary Proposal
August 1976	Preparation of a Final Proposal
September 1976	Board of Supervisors' Hearings on the Final Proposal
October 1976	Submission of Final Program Application to HUD
January 1977	Start of the 1977 Community Development Program year

Based upon testimony and information received from the public, and with assistance from other City departments and agencies, the Mayor's OCD will prepare a preliminary proposal for the 1977 Community Development Program. This preliminary proposal will then be distributed to the public for review. Further public hearings are scheduled in July to hear comment on the preliminary proposal. Based upon these comments, revisions will be made, and a final proposal will be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors in September. The Board of Supervisors will hear additional public testimony and then amend, as appropriate, prior to its approval. A final program application will then be forwarded to HUD for federal review and funding approval.





Thus, there are many opportunities to participate in the development of the annual Community Development Program. However, the earlier you become involved, the greater your impact on the program will be. If you are not already receiving information regarding the Community Development Block Grant Program, call the Mayor's OCD at 558-4566 and ask that your name or the name of your neighborhood organization be included on the program mailing list. You will then receive a notice of the first public hearings on the 1977 program and will be able to participate in the program development from the beginning.

So that you will understand the types of activities that are eligible for funding under the Community Development Block Grant and the amount of funding that is anticipated from HUD in the coming years, also ask the Mayor's OCD to send you or your organization a copy of the 1976 Community Development Program and X Housing Assistance Plan. This document explains the history of the program, the federal regulations and local policies governing the program, and the types of activities that have received funding in the past. It is important to review this information so that your energies will be devoted to activities which are eligible and appropriate for funding under this program. If you still have questions after reading the 1976 program document, call the Mayor's OCD for further information and clarification.





Community Development Neighborhood Activities

The opportunities to participate in the Community Development Block Grant Program are not limited to the annual development of the program itself. Many of the activities funded under this program call for citizen and neighborhood involvement on a continuing basis. In some instances the annual program merely indicates a lump sum allocation for a certain project category. As specific neighborhood projects are developed, these are funded from the lump sum allocations that have been set aside.

Following is a brief description of some of the project categories developed under the 1975 and 1976 Community Development Programs. A staff of neighborhood planners is available in the Department of City Planning to answer any questions you might have regarding these activities and to assist you in the development of plans for a specific project in your neighborhood. To find out who the neighborhood planner is for your area, please call the Department of City Planning at 558-4541.





Neighborhood Centers Program

How often have you wished for a convenient place where you and your neighbors could meet to discuss community matters, or take your children for day care services or receive other services important to your daily life? If you find yourself needing a convenient neighborhood service center, you are not alone. Residents throughout the city are expressing this same concern.

In response to this need, a new program has been initiated in the 1975 and 1976 Community Development Programs for the provision of publicly owned multi-purpose neighborhood centers. Approximately \$1.5 million has been set aside so far for this program. Community development funds are to be used for the development of the physical facility, but other existing services and funding sources will need to be secured for on-going program operations.

Since this is a brand new program for San Francisco, it requires a great deal of preliminary planning to assure that centers go where they are most needed, and operate in such a way as to best meet the needs of the neighborhoods they serve.

As a first step in the development of the program for additional neighborhood centers, an inventory of needs and services has been completed, which recommends a priority listing of neighborhoods to receive new centers. Following review of this study and its recommendations by the Board of Supervisors, staff of

the Department of City Planning will work with designated neighborhoods to determine services, operation and locations of the new centers. If the program works well in these neighborhoods, it can be expanded to other areas in future years.

To find out more about this program, talk with your neighborhood planner in the Department of City Planning. If your neighborhood is designated as a first priority area, you may want to become involved in the planning and development of the new center. If your neighborhood is not a first priority area, you may want to find out about other service programs which are underway in your area or to be kept informed on the program progress.





REHABILITATION OF BRANCH LIBRARIES

Branch libraries can be the hub of a number of neighborhood activities. Branch libraries in the Noe Valley, Chinatown, Bernal Heights and Haight-Ashbury districts have been allocated funds from the 1976 Community Development Program for the renovation of unfinished areas within these buildings to serve as community space for neighborhood residents.

If you feel that such renovations would be practical and useful in a library in your area, talk with your branch librarian or your neighborhood planner about the possibility of proposing such a project for inclusion in the 1977 Community Development Program.

You might also want to explore the possibility of developing outdoor improvements, such as sitting areas, at your branch library through such programs as the Neighborhood Bicentennial Program or the Neighborhood Initiated Improvement Program. Your neighborhood planner and branch librarian can work with you in exploring ways to expand the benefits of your neighborhood library.





Recreational Facilities

San Franciscans should not have to leave their neighborhoods to search for adequate recreational and open space opportunities. Such opportunities should be available in all neighborhoods throughout the city.

To address this need, over \$1.9 million in community development funds have been allocated for the renovation of twenty existing recreational facilities in the city. A variety of improvements are planned for these centers, ranging from new play equipment to landscaping, to the construction of new recreation buildings. If the recreational facilities in your neighborhood are in need of improvement, talk with your neighborhood planner in the Department of City Planning and with staff of the Recreation and Park Department (558-3355) and find out what plans are being made or could be made for the renovation of your recreation center.

In addition to this community development renovation program, substantial new funds will also soon be available from the Open Space Acquisition and Park Renovation Fund, established with the passage of Proposition J in November 1974. This Charter amendment authorizes a 10 cent special annual ad valorem tax levy for a 15-year period to be used for the acquisition of designated undeveloped hill-top areas, the purchase of land for new parks and playgrounds in high-need neighborhoods, the development of new waterfront recreation areas, and the renovation of existing parks and playgrounds throughout the city.

A 23-member Citizens' Advisory Committee has been established to assist in the planning and programming for these funds. Based upon public hearings conducted by the Committee a program has been developed for the expenditure of these funds for fiscal years 1975-76 and 1976-77. Your neighborhood planner and staff of the Recreation and Park Department can provide you with a copy of this program. If your neighborhood is designated as high-need in this program, work with your neighborhood planner, the Citizens' Advisory Committee and the Recreation and Park Department staff on the development of the plans for your neighborhood. If your neighborhood is not included in this first program, inquire about getting involved in the planning process for future years.



HOUSING REHABILITATION



One of the most important elements in improving the quality of life in our neighborhoods is the preservation and renovation of the housing in which we live. To conserve San Francisco's valuable housing stock, the City is undertaking a study with community development funds to determine and establish techniques for rehabilitating the housing stock throughout the city.

In addition, a new Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RAP) has been established by the City. RAP provides for code enforcement activities, low-interest rehabilitation loans to property owners, public improvements, hardship loans and relocation payments, as needed, in designated areas of the city. The low-interest loans are to be financed through the sale of City bonds, and the other project activities are to be funded from the Community Development Block Grant. Approximately \$3 million in community development funds has been allocated for this program in 1975 and 1976.

The Inner Richmond and Upper Ashbury districts have already been designated as eligible RAP areas. A plan for public improvements has been completed and approved by the Board of Supervisors for the Inner Richmond, and one is in preparation, along with an Environmental Impact Statement, for the Upper Ashbury. Other neighborhoods are currently participating in community meetings with staff of the Department of City Planning and the Bureau of Building Inspection to determine the appropriateness of RAP in their areas.

If you feel that RAP activities would be appropriate in your area, or if you would like to be kept informed of the progress of the rehabilitation study, contact your neighborhood planner at the Department of City Planning. That planner will answer any questions you might have and will help you identify the rehabilitation components appropriate for your neighborhood.



Historic Preservation

A special quality is added to urban life through the preservation and renovation of our older structures which have unusual architectural merit and community significance. To help preserve this quality, \$200,000 in community development funds has been set aside for the development of a program for the preservation of historic structures.

Public meetings have been held with interested citizens regarding the use of these funds, resulting in the development of a proposed Preservation Loan Program.

The function of the proposed Preservation Loan Program would be to make or guarantee loans for the restoration and/or rehabilitation of structures of architectural merit and community significance where other loans are either not available to or not affordable by the owner. Among the objectives of the program would be to benefit low- and moderate-income persons, to assist owner-occupied structures and to emphasize exterior restoration. It is proposed that the program be operated by the Foundation for San Francisco's Architectural Heritage as part of Heritage's existing Urban Conservation Fund. A loan committee representing a range of interests, including City agencies, neighborhood groups and professional organizations, would advise Heritage on the program and review proposed projects.



The program proposal will be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors in May 1976 for their review and approval. If you are interested in learning more about the proposal or providing comments on its content, contact your neighborhood planner at the Department of City Planning (558-4541). Also ask that you be notified when a date is set for a public hearing before the Board of Supervisors. You might also want to consider ways in which this program can be used in your neighborhood to preserve significant structures.





Neighborhood Bicentennial Program

What better time is there than this twin-bicentennial year to launch a joint effort between City Hall and citizens in improving neighborhood quality?

The Neighborhood Bicentennial Program encourages neighbors to get together and undertake improvement activities in their neighborhoods. Groups can use their ingenuity and imagination to undertake activities which would most benefit their neighborhood, ranging from such projects as clean-up campaigns and recycling efforts to the organization of service programs for needy children, the elderly or shut-ins.

These neighborhood projects will be reviewed by an independent team of San Francisco citizens, who will then make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors for neighborhood awards. These awards will range from \$2,000 to \$20,000 and will provide winning neighborhood groups with outdoor public improvements of their choice, such as tree planting, benches, a play structure or a community kiosk. An amount of \$300,000 has been allocated from the 1976 Community Development Program to fund these awards, and another \$300,000 is planned to be set aside from the 1977 Program.



This project provides a marvelous opportunity and incentive for City Hall and neighborhood groups to get down to the serious business of improving neighborhood quality. Over 40 neighborhood organizations have already begun developing projects for the Bicentennial Program. If a group in your neighborhood is participating in the Bicentennial Program, why not join in the effort? Work you do between October 1975 and October 1976 can be evaluated by the Awards and Eligibility Committee of the Neighborhood Bicentennial. Public improvement awards will be made in late 1976 and early 1977.

A newsletter explaining this program has been prepared by the Neighborhood Bicentennial Committee staff. Copies are available at all branch libraries, may be obtained by calling the Bicentennial Committee at 626-1776 or by calling your neighborhood planner in the Department of City Planning. These persons would be pleased to answer any questions you might have. They also would be able to advise you of what activities are planned in your area that you might become involved in and to assist you in developing your project.





Neighborhood Initiated Improvement Program



Neighborhood groups throughout the city are developing improvements in their areas with help from City Hall, provided through the Neighborhood Initiated Improvement Program (NIIP).

Deadlines are set once a year for the submission of proposals from neighborhood groups for the development of small-scale outdoor public improvements in their areas. Eighty proposals, totalling \$350,000, were funded in 1975, including such improvements as street trees, benches, litter receptacles, play structures, community gardens, and neighborhood art projects. A tremendous amount of neighborhood ingenuity went into these projects, stretching limited dollars to their fullest potential. The average project cost was only \$4,400, but when combined with neighborhood energy and effort, these small amounts generated significant improvements in a variety of neighborhoods.

Over 100 new proposals were received from neighborhood groups for the 1976 program deadline of February 27. These proposals are being reviewed with City departments, and funding recommendations will be made to the Board of Supervisors in May 1976. If you submitted a proposal in 1976, you will be notified of the date of the public hearing to be held by the Board of Supervisors and of the list of projects being recommended for funding.

If you are interested in participating in the program in future years, you may obtain a copy of the newsletter explaining the program from your neighborhood planner at the Department of City Planning. You might also want to consider using a NIIP proposal in 1977 as a supplement to projects undertaken as part of the Neighborhood Bicentennial Program in 1976. In this way, you can increase the impact of your neighborhood planning and improvement activities.





Neighborhood Traffic Control

Do you live on a residential street with too much traffic, heavy truck traffic noise or speeding cars? If so, you may need a traffic improvement program in your neighborhood.

A program known as Protected Residential Areas (PRA) has been developed by the Departments of City Planning and Public Works for the development of improved residential traffic conditions. A variety of techniques are used, such as the addition of traffic islands, the formation of corner sidewalk bulbs, and the construction of median islands. These measures are also often combined with beautification activities, such as the planting of sidewalk trees.

Allocations of \$160,000 and \$120,000 have been set aside in the 1975 and 1976 Community Development Programs, respectively, for the development of such neighborhood programs.

To find out if your neighborhood is appropriate for a traffic improvement program, contact the neighborhood planner for your area in the Department of City Planning. That planner will work with you in contacting the various City agencies that need to be involved in conducting traffic studies and reviewing and approving any plans for changing traffic patterns.

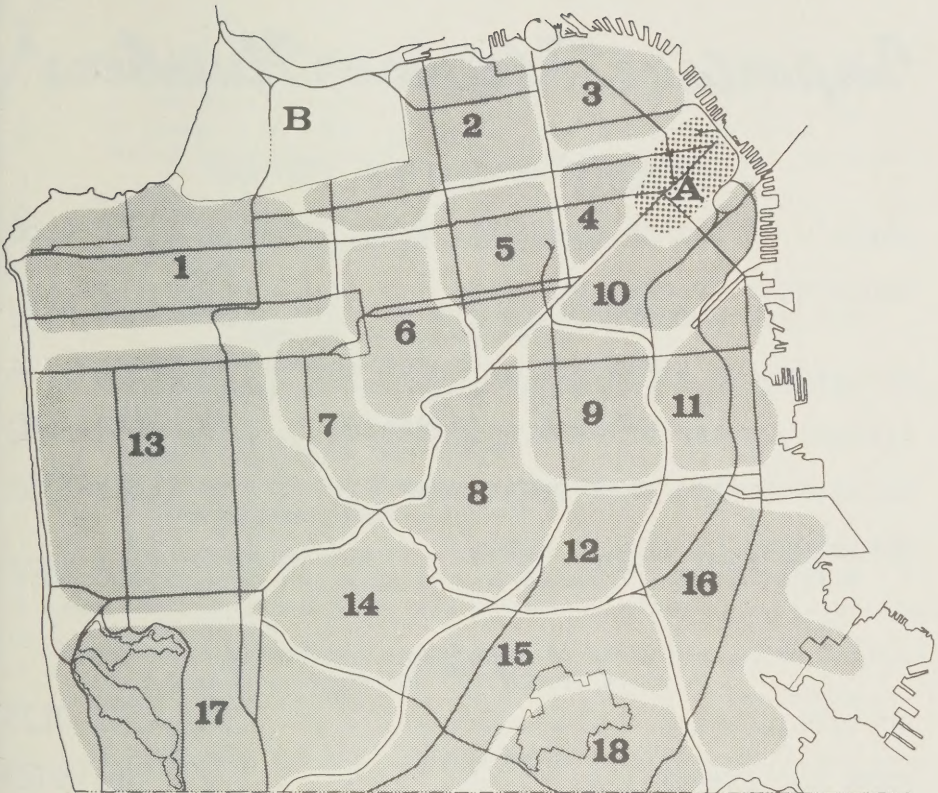
A newsletter has been prepared by the Department of City Planning, entitled "Traffic in Neighborhoods", which outlines the steps to be taken in developing a PRA program. Your neighborhood planner would be pleased to send you a copy.



Many neighborhoods are already participating in this program. Construction has been recently completed on Harrison and Bryant Streets in the Mission district. Department of Public Works and City Planning staff have been working with the Folsom Street Block Club designing a PRA to be constructed later in 1976. Meanwhile, a Mission district traffic study is being conducted by Public Works to guide further PRA planning with the Mission Planning Council. The Excelsior and Noe Valley districts are forming planning committees to formulate PRA plans to be built in stages over the next 2-3 years. Projects to be funded from other revenue sources are also being developed in the Inner Richmond and Jordan Park neighborhoods.

If a project is already going on in your neighborhood, take the time to become involved. If not, and if traffic is a problem on your street, talk to your neighbors and your neighborhood planner about planning a project in your area.





NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING PROGRAM AREAS

San Francisco Department of City Planning

To get in touch with the neighborhood planner for your community, call the number below. The Program Coordinator is Lucian Blazej, 558-4305.

1. RICHMOND.....	Alec Bash.....	558-3055
2. MARINA, COW HOLLOW, PACIFIC HEIGHTS, PRESIDIO TERRACE, JORDAN PARK.....	Russ Watson.....	558-3055
3. NORTHEAST RESIDENTIAL, CHINATOWN.....	Moirra So.....	558-4541
TELEGRAPH-RUSSIAN-NOB HILLS.....	Alan Billingsley.....	558-4541
4. NORTH OF MARKET, TENDERLOIN.....	Kit Benziger.....	558-4541
5. WESTERN ADDITION, HAYES VALLEY.....	Wil Hardee.....	558-4541
6. BUENA VISTA, HAIGHT-ASHBURY.....	Audrey Owen.....	558-4541
7. TWIN PEAKS, UNIVERSITY TERRACE, ISAC	Ralph Gigliello.....	558-3050
8. NOE VALLEY, EUREKA VALLEY, GLEN PARK, DIAMOND HEIGHTS.....	Jon Pon.....	558-4541
9. MISSION.....	Linda Ferbert.....	558-4541
10. SOUTH OF MARKET.....	Carl Ness.....	558-3055
11. POTRERO HILL.....	John Mackie.....	558-4541
12. BERNAL HEIGHTS.....	Glenda Skiffer.....	558-4541
13. SUNSET, PARKSIDE.....	Bob Feldman.....	558-3055
14. SUNNYSIDE, MT. DAVIDSON.....	Joe Fitzpatrick.....	558-3055
15. OUTER MISSION, PORTOLA.....	Mark Winogrand.....	558-3055
16. SOUTH BAYSHORE.....	Doug Holmen.....	558-3050
17. OCEAN VIEW-MERCED-INGLESIDE.....	Bill Ward.....	558-4541
18. VISITACION VALLEY.....	Robin Jones.....	558-4541
A. DOWNTOWN.....	Janis Birkeland.....	558-3055
B. PRESIDIO.....	Ed Murphy.....	558-4656
WATERFRONT.....	Charles Gill.....	558-4541
PARKS AND OPEN SPACE.....	Sidney Shaw.....	558-4541

U.C. BERKELEY LIBRARIES



C124899530

Office of the Mayor
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102

